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REMARKS

The Examiner's thoughtful attention to this application is sincerely appreciated.

As evidenced by Applicant's attached Declaration, Applicant obtained an Exer-Ring, along with instructions for its use. The Exer-Ring is made of a relatively hard, smooth, slippery plastic. When an Exer-Ring is compressed between a user's fingers, the portion of the ring held by the fingers does not rotate <u>simultaneously with the fingers</u> about a Y axis in the manner illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 of Applicant's drawings. Instead, the user's fingertips <u>slip over</u> the plastic.

If appropriate, Applicant will promptly provide an Exer-Ring for the Examiner's evaluation.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention is not fairly suggested by the Exer-Ring, whether taken singly or in combination with the other references of record.

The attached Declaration also confirms that Applicant began development of the invention in 1993, that financial limitations significantly extended the time required to develop the invention, and that the web site referred to by the Examiner was initiated in fall 2001, not long before the current patent application was filed.

Applicant corrected the typographical error in Claim 4 noted by the Examiner.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's close reading of the Claims.

If the Examiner finds merit in the foregoing remarks and amendments, it is believed the application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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